New Sugar Factories

3864. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:
SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sugar factories in the country to whom licences have been issued but due to escalation in investment cost the projects could not get materialised;

(b) the number of such projects in Maharashtra;

(c) the escalation in investment cost of such project and by when the difference would be met and in what manner;

(d) the fate of hew licences as the Projects pending for the last three years with the Central Government; and by when any decision would be taken; and

(e) what criteria are proposed to be adopted for the issue of new licences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c) As on 31-10-1992, 98 letters of intent issued for establishment of new sugar factories were pending implementation. Industrial Finance Corporation of India has reported that at present 49 proposals for financial assistance for setting up of new sugar factories are pending with the Central Financial Institutions. Out of these 49, 27 are from the State of Maharashtra.

According to the Financial Institutions, due to escalation in the project cost, the viability of a new sugar project has become uncertain particularly on account of non-availability of adequate incentives. The Institutions propose to review the pending applications after the revision of the Incentive Scheme by the Government and the viability picture becoming clearer.

(d) In view of the large pendency of unimplemented letters of intent/licences already issued, proposals for setting up of new sugar factories have not yet been taken up for consideration.

(e) Central Government has announced the licensing policy guidelines for sugar industry for the sugar year 1991-92 and the 8th Five Year Plan (1992-93 — 1996-97) vide Press Note dated 8-11-1991.

Heritage Zone in Orissa

3865. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Orissa has urged the Central Government to give priority to the conservation and development of the heritage zone in Bhubneshwar dating back to the third century B.C.;

(b) if so, what is Government's response thereto;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage has prepared a project report for the development of the heritage zone;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof;

(e) whether it is also a fact that Government of Orissa have proposed to the centre to seek financial assistance from the UNESCO for this purpose; and

(f) if so, whether the Central Government have processed the request made to it?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) The Government of Orissa have requested the Central Government to recommend the proposal for Ekamra Kshetra Heritage Zone Project to the UNESCO for assistance. The Central Government have recommended the case to the UNESCO.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The salient features of the project